No schools will be displaced by the thoroughfare plan. However, the schools will be affected in a positive sense. The thoroughfare plan relieves congestion and operational problems near the Edgewood school zone at Old Tram Road.

#### Churches

No churches are affected by the thoroughfare plan.

# Historical Properties

The Whiteville/Brunswick Urban Area contains one National Register property, the Columbus County Courthouse. There are also two properties on the State Study list, the Oscar High House and the Whiteville Depot. The Thoroughfare Plan does not affect these properties.

### Public Health and Safety

The thoroughfare plan contributes to the public health and safety through (1) reduction in traffic accidents; (2) improved service to medical facilities; (3) improved mobility for fire, police and other emergency vehicles; and (4) enhanced air quality.

Implementation of the thoroughfare plan will provide greater mobility of public vehicles through the downtown area and around the heart of Whiteville. The Old Tram Road Connector provides a faster way for public vehicles to reach the Columbus County Hospital.

#### National Defense

A national defense highway serves transportation demands during periods of national or local emergency such as war and natural calamity. NC 130 is designated as a Hurricane Evacuation Route for the Coastal Beaches.

### **Businesses**

The development of a thoroughfare plan has both positive and negative effects on business within the area. As new thoroughfares are constructed, or old ones widened, the improved mobility tends to improve the overall business climate and proves more attractive to the establishment of new business interests. The construction of new facilities often opens up new land areas for business expansion. On the negative side is the potential disruption or removal of existing businesses as a result of thoroughfare construction, although no businesses are anticipated on being removed in the Whiteville/Brunswick planning area.

# Employment

Improvement in the level of service provided by the thoroughfare system will reduce transportation costs for industry, facilitate industrial employment expansion, and contribute to area income through additional business activity and reduced transportation cost for workers. An adequate thoroughfare plan will improve the future economic vitality of the Whiteville/Brunswick Urban Area.